



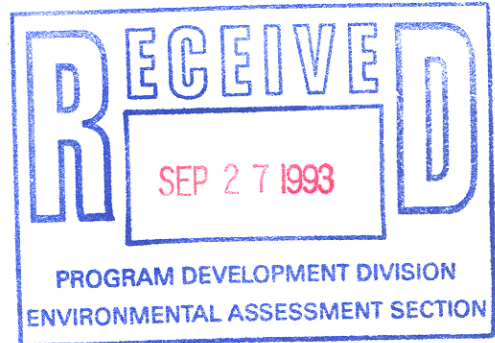
IN REPLY REFER TO:

# United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
BLOOMINGTON FIELD OFFICE (ES)  
620 South Walker Street  
Bloomington, Indiana 47403-2121  
(812) 334-4261 FAX 334-4273

September 8, 1993



Mr. James E. Juricic  
Environmental Assessment Section  
Department of Transportation  
100 North Senate Avenue, Room N808  
Indiana Government Center North  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2249

Dear Mr. Juricic:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has determined that certain projects subject to Federal Highway Administration funding result in minimal impacts to fish and wildlife resources. Our review of such projects typically results in a response letter with a standard set of conditions to mitigate environmental impacts. To expedite the early coordination process, the FWS is providing a programmatic review for all such projects, as defined in this letter. The programmatic response applies only to projects with minimal impacts to fish and wildlife resources and no adverse effects on federally endangered or threatened species, as defined in this document.

For all projects to which this programmatic response applies, the following standard set of conditions will be in effect, and the FWS will not send an individual response to early coordination letters. For all projects in the "Programmatic Coordination" category of the accompanying Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), we request to be sent an early coordination letter; for projects in the "No Coordination Required" category, no letter will be sent.

These comments have been prepared under the authority of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661 et. seq.) and are consistent with the intent of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Mitigation Policy.

## Standard Conditions

1. Post DO NOT DISTURB signs at the construction zone boundaries and do not clear trees or understory vegetation outside the boundaries.
2. Restrict below low-water work to placement of piers, pilings and/or footings, shaping of the spill slopes around the bridge abutments, and placement of riprap.
3. Restrict channel work and vegetation clearing to within the width of the normal approach road right-of-way. In rural areas this should be feasible under current Indiana Natural Resources Commission policy, whereby it is not necessary

for a new bridge in a rural area to reduce the amount of headup compared to the existing bridge (when replaced on essentially the same alignment).

4. Minimize the extent of artificial bank stabilization.
5. If riprap is utilized for bank stabilization, extend it below low-water elevation to provide aquatic habitat.
6. Implement temporary erosion and siltation control devices such as placement of straw bales in drainage ways and ditches, covering exposed areas with burlap, jute matting or straw, and grading slopes to retain runoff in basins.
7. Revegetate all disturbed soil areas immediately upon project completion.
8. Avoid all work within the inundated part of the stream channel during the fish spawning season (April 1 through June 30), except for work within sealed structures such as caissons or cofferdams that were installed prior to the spawning season.

#### Projects for which Programmatic Coordination Applies


This programmatic coordination letter applies to all projects which are within the criteria described in the "Programmatic Coordination" section of the attached MOU. In general, it applies to all projects for which coordination is required, but which are not in any of the prohibited categories described in the MOU.

If information becomes available concerning federally endangered/threatened species, or other significant fish and wildlife resources, which might preclude the programmatic response for a specific project, it will be the responsibility of the FWS to inform INDOT within 60 days of receiving the early coordination letter that additional consultation will be necessary. If new endangered species information which would affect the project becomes available between early coordination and construction, the FWS will inform INDOT as soon as possible.

A permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act may be needed for the proposed project. We would probably not object to issuance of such a permit if the applicable aforementioned recommendations are incorporated into final project plans as currently proposed.

If you have any questions about our recommendations, please call (812) 334-4261.

Sincerely yours,

  
David C. Hudak,  
Supervisor